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TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY

THE twenty-third annual meeting of the American Folk-Lore Society was held in Washington, D. C., in affiliation with the American Anthropological Association and with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A meeting of the Council of the American Folk-Lore Society was held on Thursday, December 28, 1911, at 9 A.M., in the new National Museum. Present: Roland B. Dixon, Alfred M. Tozzer, Alexander F. Chamberlain, Pliny Earle Goddard, Charles Peabody. Dr. Dixon presided.

At this meeting the proposition, originating with the Anthropological Association, of the establishment of an independent quarterly of bibliography and literary review along the lines of the "Centralblatt für Anthropologie," was discussed, and the matter laid on the table.

The Secretary was authorized to proceed with a re-organization of the membership list of the Society, consisting in the giving leave to withdraw to those members who might be very much in arrears in payment of dues.

Nominations of officers, for presentation to the Society at its annual meeting, were discussed.

At 10 A.M. the twenty-third annual meeting of the American Folk-Lore Society was called to order. In the absence of the President (Professor Henry M. Belden), the Second Vice-President (Dr. J. Walter Fewkes) presided.

The presidential address, "The Study of Balladry in America," was read by the Secretary. This was followed by the presentation of papers:

ROBERT H. LOWIE, "Principle of Convergence in Ethnology."

ALEXANDER F. CHAMBERLAIN, "A Note on the Personification of Fatigue by the American Indians;" "The Initial and Terminal Formulæ of Kutenai Tales."

WILLIAM C. FARABEE, "Quechua Folk-Music."

CHARLES PEABODY, "Notes on the Words and Music of the White Captive Ballad."

The following papers were read by abstract:

AURELIO M. ESPINOSA, "Spanish-American Folk-Lore in New Mexico."

HOWARD W. ODUM, "Work-Songs of the Southern Negroes."

PHILLIPS BARRY, "William Carter, the Bensontown Homer."

"Arapaho Tales," by H. R. VOTH, was read by title.

At the business meeting a letter from the President, Professor Henry M. Belden, of the University of Missouri, was read; and this was followed by the reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, and the Editor of the Journal, as follows:—

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The membership of the Society, and the libraries subscribing to the Journal, present the following statistics:

	1910	1911
Honorary members.....	14	14
Life members.....	8	9
Annual members.....	344	357
Subscribing libraries.....	135	142

The Secretary regrets to report that the Iowa Branch has ceased to exist as such. It is hoped that the members may continue in the Society as members at large.

CHARLES PEABODY, *Secretary*.

TREASURER'S REPORT¹

RECEIPTS

Balance from last statement.....	\$423.77
Receipts from annual dues for the year 1912.....	3.00
Receipts from annual dues for the year 1911.....	801.40
Receipts from annual dues for the year 1910.....	30.00
Receipts from annual dues for the year 1909.....	12.00
Receipts from life-membership dues.....	50.00
Subscriptions to the Publication Fund.....	157.00
Sales through the Houghton Mifflin Company (net of mailing and other charges):	
Memoirs.....	101.25
Journals of American Folk-Lore, from Dec. 1, 1910, to July 31, 1911.....	426.43
Sales from agencies through The New Era Printing Company, Lancaster, Pa....	4.80
Sales of reprints to authors.....	14.79
Sales of Memoirs through Treasurer.....	3.00
Subscriptions to Journal of American Folk-Lore from agencies, through Treasurer	43.34
Balance from Treasury of the Iowa Branch of the American Folk-Lore Society	
(E. K. Putnam, Treasurer, Davenport, Io.).....	8.82
Dr. Felix Grendon, Brooklyn, N. Y., last payment toward cost of printing his	
article in Journal of American Folk-Lore, No. 84.....	55.00
Interest, Old Colony Trust Company, Boston, Mass.....	18.79
	<u>\$2153.39</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Houghton Mifflin Company, for manufacturing Journal of American Folk-Lore,	
Nos. 89 and 90 ²	\$608.31
Houghton Mifflin Company, for printing reprints for authors.....	151.17
Amount carried forward.....	<u>\$759.48</u>

¹ This covers the period from Dec. 26, 1910, to Dec. 21, 1911.

² This is the last Journal of American Folk-Lore manufactured by the Houghton Mifflin Company. Journal of American Folk-Lore, Nos. 91 and 92, have been manufactured by The New Era Printing Company, Lancaster, Pa. The bills for Journals of American Folk-Lore, Nos. 92 and 93, have not yet come in, and should be added to the expenses of the current year, and deducted from our balance.

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Amount brought forward	\$759.48
Houghton Mifflin Company, for binding two copies of <i>Journal of American Folk-Lore</i> , Volume XXIII, and making five extra cloth covers.....	1.35
Houghton Mifflin Company, for changing die.....	.64
Houghton Mifflin Company, charges for express, mailing, copyright, etc.....	57.62
Houghton Mifflin Company, work on packing and furnishing four cases for Journals sent to Columbia University, New York, N. Y.....	10.50
Dr. Franz Boas, Editor, for express charges on Journals of <i>American Folk-Lore</i> sent to Columbia University, New York, N. Y.....	12.31
American Anthropological Association, one-half cost of compiling and printing "Periodical Literature" for publication in the <i>Journal</i>	147.64
The New Era Printing Company, Lancaster, Pa., for manufacturing <i>Journal of American Folk-Lore</i> , No. 91.....	183.80
Dr. Franz Boas, Editor, Columbia University, New York, N. Y. for expenses of editorial work on <i>Journal</i> during the year 1911.....	35.00
The Rockwell and Churchill Press, Boston, Mass., for printing return envelopes	3.00
Treasurer's postage and sundry charges.....	13.57
Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr., Treasurer of the Boston Branch of the American Folk-Lore Society, for cost of sending out first notice of the year to local members	2.70
Insurance on catalogue for "Tenth Memoir".....	2.00
Rebate to Cambridge Branch (M. L. Fernald, Treasurer, Cambridge, Mass.)....	19.50
Rebate to Boston Branch (Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr., Treasurer, Boston, Mass.)....	49.00
Rebate to Missouri Branch (Miss Idress Head, Treasurer, St. Louis, Mo.).....	5.50
Rebate to Illinois Branch (H. S. V. Jones, Treasurer, Urbana, Ill.).....	4.00
Rebate to New York Branch (Stansbury Hagar, Treasurer, New York, N. Y.)..	2.00
Rebate to Texas Branch (Miss Ethel Hibbs, Treasurer, Galveston, Texas)....	16.00
Old Colony Trust Company, Boston, Mass., for collecting checks.....	3.00
	<u>\$1328.61</u>
Balance to new account.....	824.78
	<u>\$2153.39</u>

ELIOT W. REMICK, *Treasurer*.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Owing to the change of publishers, which occurred at the beginning of the year 1911, the appearance of the numbers of the *Journal* has been very irregular, but the last number is well advanced in preparation.¹

According to the programme developed in the last report, the Editor has endeavored to obtain material on Spanish-American and Negro folk-lore. It is gratifying that the appeals of the Editor have met with unexpected success, and we may hope that further contributions may be made to this interesting and little cultivated branch of research. Extended collection of Negro folk-lore is very important and urgent, and should receive close attention.

¹ Since the above report was written, the last number of the *Journal* for 1911 has been issued.

With the extension of interests over the fields of English, American, Romanic-American, Negro, and Indian folk-lore, the size of the Journal threatens to become almost too small; and if the financial conditions of the Society permitted, it should be extended considerably. A strong effort to increase membership, and if possible to establish a publication fund, should therefore be made.

In accordance with the vote of the Society not to proceed with the printing of the General Index until sufficient funds can be secured, the completed manuscript has been kept in the safe deposit vaults of the Hudson River Branch of the Corn Exchange Bank in New York until sufficient funds can be secured for its publication. An appeal to the Carnegie Institution and to the Smithsonian Institution to assist in the publication or to take over the publication has remained without success, so that we are compelled to rely on the resources of the Society or on private contributions. The Permanent Secretary of the Society has generously promised a contribution of \$100. Nine additional contributions of the same amount would enable us to complete this important work, that is to be dedicated to the memory of the unforgotten founder of our Society, Mr. W. W. Newell.

The Editor begs to revert to the recommendation made a year ago; namely, to enter into a contract with the American Anthropological Association for the purpose of publishing jointly with that Association a bibliographical journal, to be furnished free of charge to all members of the American Folk-Lore Society and of the American Anthropological Association; this publication to contain the bibliographical record by Professor Chamberlain, and reviews. If the Editor may be allowed to make the suggestion, it would be to place this publication, if decided upon, in charge of Professor Chamberlain, to be assisted by a number of gentlemen who have in recent years taken particular interest in the development of the review department of the Journal,—Dr. A. A. Goldenweiser, Dr. Robert Lowie, and others. Financially the establishment of this independent journal would be a saving for both societies, since the bibliography is now printed twice, and is twice in the hands of the many individuals who are members of both Societies. The Editor would further suggest that this journal be issued as a quarterly; that the bibliography be divided geographically, as it is now; and that the report on each division be made to cover the period of one year; so that, for instance, "America" might appear in April, and should cover the period from April to April; "Africa," in July, and should cover the period from July to July, or whatever convenient month may be decided upon by the Editor.

The Society must decide what to do with the plates of the old numbers of the Journal of American Folk-Lore, which are still with the Houghton Mifflin Company. I think it would be well to dispose

of the metal, except in cases of numbers of which there are less than five copies in stock. These might be held. I should advise referring this matter to a committee.

FRANZ BOAS, *Editor*.

The nominations of the Council for the officers for the year 1912 were accepted, and the Secretary was instructed to cast a ballot for their election. The officers are as follows:

PRESIDENT, John A. Lomax, University of Texas, Austin, Tex.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, Professor G. L. Kittredge, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT, Dr. J. Walter Fewkes, Bureau of American Ethnology, Washington, D. C.

EDITOR OF JOURNAL, Professor Franz Boas, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

PERMANENT SECRETARY, Dr. Charles Peabody, Harvard University, Cambridge Mass.

TREASURER, Mr. Eliot W. Remick, 300 Marlborough Street, Boston, Mass.

COUNCILLORS. For three years: R. H. Lowie, E. K. Putnam, A. M. Tozzer. For two years: P. E. Goddard, Mrs. Zelia Nuttall, S. A. Barrett. For one year: Phillips Barry, J. B. Fletcher, A. F. Chamberlain. Past Presidents: Roland B. Dixon, John R. Swanton, Henry M. Belden. Presidents of local branches: F. W. Putnam, W. F. Harris, A. C. L. Brown, Miss Mary A. Owen, Joseph Jacobs, Robert A. Law.

The following committees were appointed:—

On Storage and Disposal of Plates and Memoirs, etc.: Franz Boas, *Chairman*; C. Peabody; A. M. Tozzer.

On Plans of Work in Common with the American Anthropological Association: C. Peabody, *Chairman*; Stansbury Hagar; Clark Wissler.

Auditing Committee: The Secretary and R. B. Dixon.

The Secretary was authorized to send votes of thanks to the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art for their kind invitation to a reception on the evening of December 28; and to the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution for the invitation to a reception on the evening of December 27, 1911, and for their hospitality in extending the privileges of the auditorium as a place of meeting, both meetings and reception having been held in the National Museum.

The Secretary was empowered to act as to the time and place of the next annual meeting.

A special meeting of the Council of the American Folk-Lore Society was held on Friday, December 29. Present: Robert H. Lowie,

Roland B. Dixon, Pliny Earle Goddard, and Charles Peabody. A vote was taken, on the invitation of the American Anthropological Association, to co-operate in the publication of a separate quarterly of bibliography and literary criticism. The vote was favorable, and was followed by the appointment of Dr. Robert H. Lowie as Editor for the American Folk-Lore Society.

CHARLES PEABODY, *Secretary*.